II. Listing of Claims

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended): [[The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of]] A method for manufacturing a transverse leaf spring, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a forming means and a mold adapted to receive said forming means;

installing a pre-braided tubular fiberglass structure over said forming means, said pre-braided structure comprising a plurality of elongated fibers arranged to form an elongated, elastic tubular structure;

placing said forming means and said braid structure into a mold cavity within said mold;

injecting a resin material into said mold to cover said fibers;

applying pressure between said forming means and interior walls of said mold to press said fiberglass structure and said resin material against said walls; and

curing said resin material to create an integrated leaf spring component.

3. (Original): The method of claim 2 wherein said forming means further comprises an elastomeric bladder adapted to fit closely within said mold cavity.

4. (Original): The method of claim 3 wherein said step of applying pressure further comprises inflating said bladder when in said mold cavity.

5. (Currently amended): The method of claim [[1]] 2 further comprising the steps of removing said component from said mold cavity and when curing said component is achieved outside of said cavity.

6. (Currently amended): The method of claim [[1]] 2 wherein said tubular fiberglass structure is radially and longitudinally elastic.

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7. (Currently amended): A system for manufacturing a transverse leaf spring, said system comprising:

an inflatable forming means having a shape corresponding to said leaf spring;

means for placing a pre-braided tubular fiberglass structure over said forming means, said braid structure comprising a plurality of elongated fibers arranged to from an elongated, elastic tubular structure, such that the forming means extends axially within an interior portion of the tubular structure;

a mold cavity adapted to receive said forming means and said braid structure; [[and]]

means for injecting a resin material into said mold cavity; and

a means for inflating said forming means, whereby said tubular structure and said resin material are pressed together against the mold cavity.

8. (Original): The system of claim 7 wherein said forming means further comprises an elastomeric bladder adapted to fit closely within said mold cavity.

9. (Original): The system of claim 7 wherein said means for placing a pre-braided structure further comprises a manual installer.

10. (Original): The system of claim 7 wherein said tubular fiberglass structure further comprises a plurality of fiberglass fibers extending helically in an interwoven fashion in a tubular shape.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended): The method of claim [[11]] 2 wherein said plurality of elongated fibers are formed from groups of generally aligned, multiple strands of fibers, each of said groups being interwoven into said braided fiber structure.

13. (Original): The method of claim 12 wherein a plurality of said groups extend helically around said structure to form said tubular shape.

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14-15. (Cancelled)

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